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RURAL DISTRICT
OF
CALNE & CHIPPENHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1965

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

C.L.Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Offices: 5, High Street, Chippenham;
Tel.No. Chippenham 2821, Ext.49.

Also: Medical Officer of Health for the:
Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury, and
Rural District of Malmesbury.
Assistant County Medical Officer.
School Medical Officer.

Secretary to the Medical Officer of Health:

S.G.V.Williamson, Cert.R.I.P.H.H.

(b) CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

H.J.Taylor, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Offices: Bewley House, Marshfield Road, Chippenham.
Tel.No. Chippenham 2854, Ext.33.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

A.F.M.Howard, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

S.H.Murray, M.A.P.H.I.
E.J.Silvester, M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

G.Jones.

(c) COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL which are concerned with matters of Public Health:

Public Health Committee.
Housing Committee.
Finance and General Purposes Committee.

These Committees meet monthly throughout the year, except during August, and deal with all matters appertaining to Public Health and Housing.

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REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the
Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council:

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1965, in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the Report are required by the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and H.M.Inspector of Factories. A copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr.H.J.Taylor, is incorporated, and provides detailed information on environmental health within the Rural District.

I am grateful to Mr.Hales, Mr.Taylor, Mr.Witham, Mr.Baugh, and other members of the Council's staff for their co-operation and assistance during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C. L. BROOMHEAD.

A. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	85,388
Population	32,190
No. of inhabited houses (at end of 1965, according to the Rate Book)	8,370
Rateable value	£913,193
Sum represented by the Penny Rate	£3,630

B. VITAL STATISTICS.(1) LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	323	277	600
Illegitimate	<u>18</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>30</u>
Total:	<u>341</u>	<u>289</u>	<u>630</u>
Crude Birth Rate for District:	19.1 per 1000 population.		
Adjusted Birth Rate for District:	21.3	"	"
Comparative rate for England and Wales:	18.0	"	"

Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England and Wales as a whole, the crude birth rate and death rate for the district are to be multiplied by an area comparability factor supplied by the Registrar-General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

(2) STILL BIRTHS.

Nine still births were notified during 1965. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 14.0; the comparative rate for England and Wales is given by the Registrar-General as 15.7.

(3) INFANT MORTALITY.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Under one year	12	1	13
Under four weeks	10	1	11
Under one week	9	1	10
Infant Mortality Rate for the District	20.6		
Comparative rate for England and Wales	19.0		

The birthrate remained practically unchanged and the still birth and infant mortality rates both showed welcome reductions compared with the previous year.

(4) DEATHS.

Deaths occurring in the Rural District during 1965 were as follows:-

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	159	111	270
Crude Death Rate for District:	8.2 per 1000 population.		
Adjusted Death Rate for District:	10.4	"	"
Comparative Rate for England and Wales:	11.5	"	"

(5)

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	2	13
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	7	7
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	7	20
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	-	2
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	21	35
Coronary disease, angina	28	17	45
Hypertension with heart disease	3	1	4
Other heart disease	18	14	32
Other circulatory disease	7	7	14
Pneumonia	5	3	8
Bronchitis	13	2	15
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	4	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Congenital malformations	5	1	6
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	17	14	31
Motor vehicle accidents	6	-	6
All other accidents	10	2	12
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	1	-	1
Totals:	<u>159</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>270</u>

Deaths due to cancer, coronary disease and heart disease collectively accounted for almost 46% of the total deaths in the Rural District during 1965.

There was a slight increase in the number of deaths due to bronchitis. The death rate showed little change however (1965 - 10.4; 1964 - 9.1 per 1000 of the population).

C. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Cases of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, are shown in the following table; comparative figures have been included for the years 1962, 1963 and 1964:

	<u>1962</u>		<u>1963</u>		<u>1964</u>		<u>1965</u>	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
<u>DISEASE:</u>								
Scarlet Fever	3	3	2	2	7	7	8	8
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	44	44	3	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	60	60	539	539	128	128	498	498
Ac.Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac.Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	83	83	40	40	9	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	2	2	1	1	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	1	-	2	1	-	-
Salmonella infections	-	-	15	15	1	1	4	4
Pneumonia	7	7	5	5	-	-	-	-
	<u>72</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>647</u>	<u>646</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>522</u>	<u>522</u>

(a) = numbers originally notified.

(b) = final numbers after correction.

Without doubt, 1965 was a typical "Measles year". The bulk of cases were notified during the first six months of the year, and the heaviest concentration occurred amongst school children in the five to nine years age group, living in the Corsham area.

Measles is a mild, yet distressing, disease, capable of producing severe respiratory complications and encephalitis, nevertheless serious complications are rare and almost never fatal in normal children. (Mortality has been stated to be about 2 per 10,000 notifications).

There are no practical means of control, and continued notification would appear to serve no useful purpose, other than perhaps to provide a very rough index of the incidence of this disease for statistical purposes.

Research and investigation into the use of vaccines has been undertaken, but no information is available at present as to whether the County Council, the responsible authority for the formation of schemes for the immunisation of children, has arrived at any decision in this matter.

Sporadic cases of salmonella infections and dysentery have been investigated. In certain cases, control included restriction in the employment of food handlers and satisfactory post-treatment laboratory reports before allowing the patient to return to work. Epidemiological investigation in practically all cases proved to be unrewarding. This is not surprising, in view of the wide range of vectors responsible for the spread of these organisms.

(2) TUBERCULOSIS.

Eight cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified and confirmed by the Chest Physician during the year. One death due to tuberculosis occurred.

In addition to the new cases notified during the year, a small number of tuberculous persons either move into the district or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the undermentioned notified and confirmed cases of tuberculosis were living in the Rural District at the end of 1965:

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pulmonary	61	40	101
Non-Pulmonary	23	26	49
Totals:	84	66	150

The total number of confirmed cases remains the same as during 1964.

(3) VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

The Wiltshire County Council, as Local Health Authority, is responsible for the formation of schemes for the immunisation of children against certain infectious diseases. I am indebted to Dr.C.D.L.Lycett, the County Medical Officer of Health, for the following information:-

(a) Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation.

Year of Birth:-			1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1956 to 1960	1950 to 1955	Others under 16.
Primary immunisations completed during 1965:	Diph.		182	203	13	10	6	39	-	-
	Wh/c.		180	198	9	7	1	1	-	-
	Tet.		182	203	14	10	7	60	16	7
Reinf. injections administered during 1965:	Diph.		-	55	139	28	23	295	4	-
	Wh/c.		-	43	86	15	7	41	-	-
	Tet.		-	55	149	29	25	320	44	2

The primary diphtheria immunisation state for babies born during 1964 and immunised up to 31st December 1965 is as follows:-

<u>1964:</u>	<u>1964:</u>	<u>Percentage:</u>
<u>Babies immunised</u>	<u>Births:</u>	
<u>up to 31.12.65:</u>		
408	672	60.7

(b) Vaccination against Smallpox.

<u>Age Group:-</u>	<u>Months:</u>				<u>Years:</u>		
	<u>0-3</u>	<u>3-6</u>	<u>6-9</u>	<u>9-12</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2-4</u>	<u>5-15</u>
Vaccinations:	4	6	12	9	254	45	30
Re-Vaccinations:	-	-	-	-	-	20	54

(c) Immunisation against Poliomyelitis.

<u>Age Group:-</u>	<u>2nd.</u> <u>injn.</u>	<u>3rd.</u> <u>quad.</u>	<u>3rd.</u> <u>injn. or</u> <u>4th.</u> <u>quad.</u>	<u>4th.</u> <u>injn.</u>	<u>3 oral</u> <u>doses.</u>	<u>2 oral</u> <u>after</u> <u>2 injn.</u>	<u>4th oral</u> <u>after 3</u> <u>injn. or</u> <u>3 oral.</u>
1965	1	-	-	-	96	-	-
1964	-	-	-	-	344	-	5
1963	-	1	3	-	70	-	16
1962	-	-	-	-	31	-	11
1961	-	-	-	-	25	4	24
1956-60	-	-	-	-	100	2	273
1950-55	-	-	-	-	9	-	12
Others under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others over 16	-	-	-	-	71	-	6
TOTALS:	1	1	3	-	746	6	347

D. WATER SUPPLIES.

The Minister of Health has given his approval to the making of arrangements for the addition of fluoride to public water supplies which are deficient in it naturally, to the level appropriate for the prevention of dental decay.

In the Minister's view, fluoridation is now an established and well-proven public health measure, which confers benefits to dental health greatly exceeding the cost of introducing it. He is convinced that it is completely safe.

Drinking water which has had its fluoride content raised to 1 p.p.m. has the same beneficial effect on teeth as water in which the same proportion of fluoride is present naturally. The effect of fluoridation has been extensively investigated throughout the world. Every allegation of harm has been thoroughly and carefully investigated, but no harmful effects from a level of 1 p.p.m. have been demonstrated whether one is young or old, healthy or sick.

Fluoridation will have little or no effect on the teeth of those who are already adult when it is introduced. Children will benefit broadly according to the age at which they first regularly begin to consume fluoridated water.

I am indebted to Mr.C.R.Phillips, Engineer to the North Wilts Water Board, for the following details of the natural fluoride content of water supplied in the Board's area:-

Chippenham	...	...	...	0.7	parts	per	million
Malmesbury	...	...	...	0.6	"	"	"
Calne	...	...	Less than	0.1	"	"	"
Corsham	...	"	"	0.1	"	"	"

It will be apparent that none of these sources contain sufficient natural fluoride.

E. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

I am grateful to Mr. Witham, Engineer and Surveyor, for the following information:-

(1) SCHEMES IN HAND OR COMPLETED IN 1965.

(a) North-Eastern Sewerage Scheme, Stage I.

Work on this scheme has proceeded throughout the year and is likely to be completed in the next summer. The overall progress on the scheme is running satisfactorily, although there has been some delay in the completion of the disposal works. Weather during the winter months has caused some slowing down of progress.

(b) Hilmarton and Goatacre.

Work in this area commenced at the end of 1964 and is likely to be completed this summer. Considerable difficulties have been encountered in carrying out this scheme, due to difficult ground conditions in certain areas. As has already been reported, the final cost is likely to exceed the estimated cost by a substantial sum.

(c) Pewshan.

This scheme has been hampered by adverse weather conditions but it is hoped nevertheless, that it will be completed by the autumn of next year. The scheme was altered just before commencement by extension to include the Pewshan Garage. This has necessitated altering the position of the Pumping Station.

(2) SCHEMES TO BE COMPLETED IN 1966.

(a) North-Eastern Sewerage Scheme, Stage II.

This scheme was due to start last year but was delayed, due to the Government restrictions on public expenditure. Permission to go ahead with the scheme has now been received.

(b) Rudloe Sewerage.

This scheme is to provide foul and surface-water drainage for the private housing sites now being developed at Rudloe.

(c) Corsham Sewerage.

In the last report for 1964, it was stated that this scheme would be ready for consideration by the Council in 1965. Staff shortage and the pressure of other work has delayed this urgent scheme, and strong efforts will be necessary to produce a scheme during 1966.

(3) OTHER SCHEMES.

The following schemes are due to commence during 1966:-

Grittleton
Hardenhuish
Linleys and Gastard (Corsham)
Notton (Lacock)

Whether or not all, or any, of these are commenced will depend on further consideration by the Council and will, of course, be subject to the present restrictions on public expenditure.

(4) FUTURE SCHEMES AUTHORISED BY THE COUNCIL.(a) South-Eastern Sewerage Scheme.

The prediction in last year's report that no progress on this scheme was likely in 1965, has unfortunately been fulfilled. Whether further development of this scheme can take place during 1966 will depend on the volume of other work to be done and the retention of the present level of staff.

(b) Colerne Sewage Disposal Works.

The standard of effluent produced by these works has steadily deteriorated and enlargement is becoming a matter of some urgency. Design works will probably have to be undertaken, even at the expense of schemes of longer standing.

(5) MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS.(a) Trade Effluents.

The effect of the charges for treating trade effluent is beginning to be felt by the firms concerned. Whilst most firms show a complete indifference to all the notices and information given to them on this subject, the receipt of the first accounts for payment have at last aroused some interest, and in two cases requests for reconsideration of charges have been received and will be dealt with in due course.

(b) Adoption of Sewers.

Sewers on a number of private and Council housing estates have been adopted during the year and more are likely to be considered in 1966.

(c) Cesspool Emptying.

Only one vehicle is employed on this, and the time spent is roughly 50% on Council and 50% on private work. During the latter part of the year, difficulties in sludge disposal at the Thingley Works reached serious proportions and the cesspool emptying vehicle was employed for a substantial part of its time in dealing with this problem. The usefulness of the vehicle to the department is considerable and its availability to the public is subject to restrictions which sometimes give rise to criticism of the service offered. However, there are two private firms operating a service in the district which appears to meet what must be a failing demand.

F. HOUSING.

(1) I am grateful to Mr.O.J.Baugh, the Council's Housing Manager, for the following details:-

1.	Total number of applicants on list at 31st December 1965	...	408
2.	Total number of applications received during 1965	...	173
3.	Total number of applicants re-housed:		
	(a) In permanent houses, flats and retirement bungalows...		83
	(b) In other accommodation	...	3
4.	Total number of applicants for retirement accommodation, included in 1, above	...	32
5.	Evicted families:		
	(a) Number brought to notice	...	25
	(b) Number re-housed...	...	14
6.	Number of units of accommodation built and occupied during 1965:		
	(a) By the Council:		
	Houses	...	60
	Flats	...	64
	Retirement bungalows	...	9
	(b) By private enterprise...	...	123

(2) RE-DEVELOPMENT OF BUNGALOW ESTATES.

(a) Site 1B, Corsham.

The remaining 24 bungalows on this estate were cleared during the year, and a total of 103 new units of accommodation have been completed and occupied.

(b) Rudloe Estate

Building on Stage III was completed during the year, and good progress was made with Stage IV. A total of 178 units of accommodation have now been occupied on this estate.

(c) Boxfields Estate (Run-down).

The remaining 11 bungalows on Site II were cleared during the year, and 54 on Site I, leaving 60 bungalows still occupied.

(d) Site I (Corsham).

A start was made on the clearance of this estate, 60 bungalows having been closed during the year; 239 bungalows remained occupied at the end of the year.

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REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

REPORT of the CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Calne and Chippenham Rural District Council:

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour and pleasure to report in some detail on the functions undertaken by the Public Health Department during 1965.

Housing.

It has been my privilege to be an officer of the Council since 1937, so I have acquired an intimate knowledge of the Council's housing policies during the past twenty-eight years. The standard of housing accommodation within the Rural District has always been of great concern to the Council and although many cottages have been condemned and demolished, the general policy has been to secure the repair and improvement of existing houses, where possible.

The statutory standard of "fitness" for a dwellinghouse during this period has not been a particularly high one, and consequently there are still many properties lacking the essential amenities of bathroom, water-closet, hot water supply, and ventilated food-store.

Nevertheless, it can truthfully be stated that present housing conditions for owners and occupiers are immeasurably better than in 1937.

On a journey through the various villages and hamlets in the Rural District one very rarely sees a squalid neglected cottage which immediately offends the eye and mars the street or village scene. Most properties reflect the prosperity of this country, but although outwardly presenting a fair face to the world at large, so many of these properties are still without the essential amenities mentioned in a previous paragraph.

What really shocks me is that in this space age, with its urge to reach the moon, hundreds of owner-occupiers and occupiers of such properties are not particularly anxious to avail themselves of basic amenities. These are well within their grasp now that main drainage has been or shortly will be available in the more populous parishes of the Rural District and with housing grants available to help meet the cost. A garage for the motor car and a sound chimney for the television aerial have priority over the provision of modern sanitary facilities.

The fear of increased rent for an improved standard of accommodation is uppermost in the minds of the majority of tenants. This is illustrated by the fact that in two instances only have the tenants of dwellinghouses applied under the provisions of Section 19 of the Housing Act, 1964, for the compulsory installation of the five standard amenities.

Slum Clearance: Circular No.11/65.

In this Circular the Ministry of Housing and Local Government requested Local Authorities to make a final estimate of the total number of houses considered to be unfit by the standard which they now apply when considering whether a property should be condemned. Local Authorities were not asked to carry out special surveys before making their returns to the Minister, it was sufficient to bring up to date the estimates on which they had hitherto been working.

On this basis I reported to the Council that 690 dwellings were considered to be unfit, including 442 unfit war-time bungalows situated in Box, Castle Combe and Corsham.

I anticipated that at least 50% of the 248 privately-owned properties would be rendered fit following the acceptance by the Council of formal undertakings to do so.

Slum Clearance Surveys.

The concentration of our efforts on other public health and housing duties has left little time for slum clearance survey work. However, I have brought to the notice of the Housing Committee twelve unfit properties in the Parish of Lacock, and seven other unfit cottages in Bremhill, Cherhill, Colerne, Corsham and Grittleton.

Housing Improvement Areas: Compulsory improvement of dwellings to provide standard amenities.

Part II of the Housing Act, 1964, provides that, if they are satisfied that any area in their district contains dwellings lacking one or more of the standard amenities and that, of the dwellings in that area which are so lacking, at least one-half -

- (a) are so constructed that it is practicable to improve them to the full standard; and
- (b) will, after they have been improved to the full standard, be in such condition as to be fit for human habitation, and will be likely, subject to normal maintenance, to remain in that condition and available for use as dwellings for a period of not less than fifteen years,

the local authority may cause the area to be defined on a map and pass a resolution declaring the area so defined to be an improvement area.

Such surveys have been carried out in two areas of Corsham, and in the village area of Sutton Benger, details of which are as follows:-

- (i) Corsham: South Street, Hastings Road, Grove Lane, Pound Mead, and Part Station Road.

A survey of 92 dwellings in this area revealed that 78 were owner/occupied and 14 tenanted. Of the 14 tenanted, 4 were already provided with the full amenities and 4 were likely to be scheduled for demolition. As only 6 properties were without one or all of the standard amenities, it was decided not to declare this an improvement area.

- (ii) Corsham: Priory Street.

A similar survey was carried out in the oldest part of Priory Street, containing 78 houses; 24 houses were found to possess all standard amenities, 48 houses lacked one or more of the standard amenities and at the time of the survey it was not possible to gain access to 6 cottages.

Of the 48 houses lacking certain standard amenities, I considered that 35 could be improved to the full standard and would after improvement be likely to remain fit and available for human habitation for at least a further fifteen years. The Council therefore resolved to declare the area comprising Nos.4-108 and Nos.17-69 inclusive, to be an improvement area.

Each dwelling within this area will have to be surveyed and individual schemes for providing standard amenities prepared, and the cost of this work estimated.

(iii) Sutton Benger.

Finally, a survey was carried out in Sutton Benger, excluding those houses which were known to be provided with standard amenities. In all, 62 houses were surveyed, and of these, 42 were found to have all amenities; only 8 of those lacking one or more of the standard amenities were tenanted.

The Council decided to defer consideration of the declaration of this area as an improvement area.

Housing Improvement Grants.

The number of houses improved during the year is well up to average, the proportion of discretionary grants to standard being much as before. This proportion may now be expected to change as the provisions of the Housing Act, 1964, which allow grants of up to £350 where a bathroom, septic tank or new water supply have to be provided, take effect. Figures for applications approved this year, which are given below, indicate this trend. There has been a slight drop in the total numbers of applications and approvals during the year, possibly due to the fact that no new sewers have been completed and the majority of suitable properties in the recently-sewered areas had already been improved.

For the first year since we have kept our records in their present form, the number of discretionary grants approved for tenanted houses has dropped below that for owner/occupied premises. This appears as a definite drop in applications for tenanted properties, and is not offset by any increase in standard grant applications. There is no lack of tenanted houses suitable for improvement, so the cause is possibly due to uncertainty in the minds of owners concerning the current financial restrictions and rent control. Financial restrictions seem to be evident in that there appear to be fewer large schemes submitted and that, despite rising costs, the average approved grant remains at about £350. The average amount of grant per dwelling paid this year was about £330, compared with £350 for 1964. The average national figure for the first nine months of 1965 was £270.

The figures below show the progress in improvements since 1960, the first full year in which standard grants were available. We have every hope of maintaining or improving on this as the North-Eastern Parishes and other sewerage schemes become available.

Details of Housing Improvements and Conversions.

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
<u>Houses Improved or Converted:</u>						
Discretionary Grants	47	47	32	48	48	42
Standard Grants	31	39	31	40	31	40
Totals:	78	86	63	88	79	82
<u>Applications (No. of houses):</u>						
Discretionary Grants	55	46	54	41	48	36
Standard Grants	46	49	66	47	41	47
Totals:	101	95	120	88	89	83
<u>Approvals (No. of houses):</u>						
Discretionary Grants - own./occ.			18	14	18	18
" " - other			30	27	28	9
Totals:	45	36	48	41	46	27
Standard Grants - own./occ.			31	30	26	34
" " - other			22	13	11	11
Totals:	45	43	53	43	37	45
Total Approvals, all grants:	90	79	101	84	83	72

Housing Advances.

Since the Council has required all houses mortgaged to it to be provided with the standard amenities, the repair and improvement of these houses has formed an important part of our housing work. Although financial restrictions have limited the number of advances made, 26 houses have been repaired or improved.

Public Cleansing Service.

The Sub-Committee of the Public Health Committee which was appointed in 1964 to consider the Council's long-term requirements for refuse disposal, continued to give this subject urgent consideration during 1965.

To complete their knowledge of the various mechanical disposal plants available, the Sub-Committee, with representatives from the Borough of Chippenham, at the kind invitation of the Borough of Kidderminster visited a recently-completed incineration plant constructed for the mechanical treatment of household refuse. The Members were very favourably impressed by the design and working efficiency of this plant, but at the same time they were conscious of the additional expense which would be involved in the construction and operation of a similar plant.

Following further deliberations by the Sub-Committee, the Chief Officers of the Council were called upon to submit estimates of the capital and running costs of incineration plants capable of handling various daily throughputs of refuse. At the end of the year this information was in course of preparation and the final recommendation of the Sub-Committee is awaited.

Also under active consideration has been the question of operating a weekly refuse collection service throughout the 24 parishes comprising the Rural District. It has been the desire of the Council to introduce weekly collections and in order to prepare for this, they took delivery of a new Shelvoke & Drewry 35 cu.yd. 'Pakamatic' refuse collection vehicle on the 1st November 1965. This new vehicle replaces a smaller and much older one and gives the extra capacity to cope with a weekly refuse collection service should this be introduced in the 1966/7 estimates.

In a large rural district of some 84,000 acres, the mileage covered by the refuse collection vehicles is quite exceptional, and during 1965 the Council's vehicles clocked some 40,000 miles.

The estimated quantity of refuse collected in 1965 was 6941 tons, which is some 673 tons less than that collected during 1964. These figures confirm the widely-held opinion of public cleansing officers that the weight of refuse is decreasing year by year, whilst its bulk increases.

In March 1965, the Council took delivery of an additional earth-moving machine, which on demonstration appeared to be a very efficient piece of equipment. However, the capabilities of this machine have proved disappointing and it has not stood up to continuous hard work. Representations were made to the manufacturers, who gave instructions for a senior maintenance engineer thoroughly to overhaul the machine. Further minor faults have developed as a result of additional work and it does appear as though this machine will not give the same satisfactory service as the first one purchased by the Council some five years ago, and which is still giving good service.

I am disappointed with the progress which is being made in the negotiations to lease additional land at Bradford Road, Corsham, for the erection of a new public cleansing department. Such facilities are urgently required, not only to provide adequate garaging accommodation for the six refuse vehicles, but also to provide a new salvage store and, not least, satisfactory changing and sanitary accommodation for the employees in this service.

Salvage of Waste Paper.

The re-organisation of the waste paper collection and baling service, put into effect as from September 1964, has resulted in more waste paper being collected and sold. I have been fortunate in securing the services of a conscientious employee who regularly bales the week's collection of waste paper, so that the collectors are encouraged to keep him supplied with a regular flow of paper. The adoption of a bonus incentive scheme for the waste paper collectors has contributed towards the improved situation, although I am still not satisfied with the thoroughness of their work.

All the faults in the service cannot be attributed to the employees: many householders place their waste paper out for collection on the wrong day, and this leads to needless complaints in the office.

The Litter Problem.

I am sure the special bulky refuse collections organised by the Council during the past two years have been appreciated by householders, and have resulted in a diminution in the quantity of such materials being dumped in roadside ditches and woodland.

As a nation, we are not very litter-conscious, with minor exceptions, and much is deposited in the countryside by picnickers, gypsies, itinerant scrap dealers, and lorry and van drivers. The Litter Act 1958 is no deterrent to these transgressors.

Abandoned Motor Vehicles.

The problem of abandoned motor vehicles is not so pressing in rural districts as in larger conurbations. The problem exists, however, and the purchase of an oxy-acetylene outfit has enabled a number of such abandoned vehicles to be cut up and removed for sale as scrap by employees of the refuse collection and disposal service. I am confident that with this equipment, any abandoned cars can be expeditiously dealt with by the department.

Food and Drugs: Inspection of Premises and Sampling of Food Products.

Routine inspections of all food premises have continued, and I am glad to report that generally a high standard of hygiene is being maintained. I feel, however, that new employees in the food trade are insufficiently versed in the principles and practice of food hygiene before they are allowed to handle foodstuffs; greater emphasis should be given to training facilities for these employees.

Sampling of Food.

We have been concerned for some years by the lack of official standards for the bacterial content of foods such as sliced ham, sausage-meat, cooked meats and synthetic cream, all of which are potentially dangerous if carelessly handled.

At the instigation of this department, the Western Centre of the Public Health Inspectors' Association is arranging a pilot scheme of selective sampling of various foods to be carried out during 1966.

The information obtained by this means will be forwarded to our Association Headquarters with the intention of initiating sampling of such foods on a national basis.

Factories, Offices and Shops: Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Almost all registered premises have received a general inspection and, in addition, inspections have been made of a number of shops and offices to investigate the sufficiency of lighting provided in workplaces.

The survey was carried out during November, when natural lighting can be insufficient. Most of the offices in the district are of recent development and modern lighting has been installed with general sufficiency but some of the older established premises, such as estate offices, are not well lighted, and some glare was noted where unshaded electric bulbs were used. It was also noted that where strip lighting tubes were more than two years old, there was a very appreciable drop in the lumens registered on the light meter.

The same pattern emerges in the shops. At Box and Corsham many of the shops have been modernised since the war and the artificial lighting is good. The lighting in small village shops tends to be variable, often with well-lighted services areas and dim storerooms.

Generally, few examples of bad lighting were found. The owner of a poorly-lighted office has been required to improve the standard, and a shopkeeper has been advised on the necessity for better lighting throughout his premises.

We find that a light meter is not the complete answer to gauging the sufficiency of illumination in a workplace, as readings vary considerably at short distances.

The statistics required by the Ministry of Labour (Safety, Health and Welfare Department) are set out in tabulated form in the body of this report.

It is interesting to note that nearly 600 persons are employed in offices, shops, catering establishments and canteens which come within the purview of the Council. The schedule of contraventions reveals that the most common ones concern the absence of thermometers for recording room temperatures, and failure to provide first aid kit. In all, 97 contraventions have been recorded, 67 of which have been remedied.

Sewer Connections.

(a) Derry Hill and Studley Sewerage Scheme.

There has been steady progress in the connection of existing houses and cottages to the sewer and there are now only 46 properties not connected. When this figure is examined, it is found to include 24 cottages with septic tank drainage, two empty cottages awaiting modernisation and connection, a chapel and a church, leaving the true figure of 18 cottages only which are still inadequately drained. It is expected that these remaining properties will be connected during 1966.

During the year, 14 connections were made to existing properties. This figure is comparatively low but that is because the majority of necessary connections were made last year.

(b) North-Eastern Sewerage Scheme; Stage 1: Christian Malford (part), Kington Langley, Kington St. Michael and Sutton Benger.

Hilmarton Sewerage Scheme.

Constructional work in connection with these schemes was proceeding during the year but the stage had not been reached when properties could be connected to the new sewers.

Preliminary sanitary surveys have been undertaken in the parishes of Hilmarton and Sutton Benger to ascertain which properties are without satisfactory means of drainage. The information thus obtained will enable the department to proceed with negotiations with owners concerning the connection of their properties to the new public sewers as soon as the Engineer and Surveyor declares the satisfactory completion of these schemes.

(c) North-Eastern Sewerage Scheme; Stage 2.

Stage 2 of this scheme comprises the low-lying districts of Christian Malford, Dauntsey Lock, Foxham, East Tytherton, etc.

In September a letter was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, stating, "... on the evidence at present available to the Department, Stage 2 of the Council's north-eastern sewerage scheme does not appear to be urgently needed for industry or the provision of housing, or for public health reasons, and it is considered that it could be deferred for the time being. But any evidence that the Council may care to submit as to the need to proceed with the scheme will be considered."

I do not know how the Ministry obtained the view that there were no public health reasons because the whole area is bristling with them, and a vigorous and suitably detailed answer was submitted. It was satisfying to receive the Ministry approval to proceed very soon afterwards.

Conclusion.

I think the Council can be assured that the many public health functions which devolve upon them as a result of the passing of the multifarious public health and housing legislation, receive the due attention of the department.

Improvement of the environmental health conditions within the district takes place slowly but inexorably, and it must be apparent to observant residents that the combined efforts of the Council and its officers are materially contributing towards the health, well-being and happiness of the inhabitants of this Rural District.

I take this opportunity of thanking Dr. Broomhead for his support and advice, and the Public Health Department for a year of conscientious service.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. J. TAYLOR,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

General.

Water supply	144
Drainage	536
Waste Foods Order	5
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	14
Caravans, tents, etc.	670
Factories - power	23
" - non-power	--
Outworkers	--
Public conveniences	96
Theatres, village halls, etc.	1
Refuse and salvage collection	296
Refuse disposal	205
Litter and abandoned vehicles	268
Rodent control	139
Infestations - flies, wasps, etc.	36
Atmospheric pollution	38
Schools	20
Shops - non-food	2
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	191
Nuisances	96
Noise abatement	13
Knackers' yards	3
Petroleum and carbide of calcium	43
Miscellaneous visits	528

Housing.

No. of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	16	
Re-visits to above houses		60
No. of houses inspected under Housing Acts	60	
Re-visits to above houses		215
No. of houses inspected for overcrowding	1	
Re-visits to above houses		2
No. of houses inspected re Improvements	472	
Re-visits to above houses		267
No. of filthy or verminous premises inspected	5	
Re-visits to above premises		5
No. of visits re Housing Advances		125

Sampling.

Water samples	357
Sewage effluent samples	2
Milk samples, bottle rinses, etc.	310
Ice cream samples	127
Food samples	28

Food.

No. of visits to: Butchers	22
Bakehouses	9
Fried fish shops	6
Licensed premises	78
Canteens, cafes, restaurants, etc.	31
Dairies and milk distributors	9
Poultry packing station	53
Grocers and general stores	63
Other food premises	14
Stalls, vehicles, etc.	13
Miscellaneous food premises	27

Infectious Diseases.

No. of enquiries in cases of infectious diseases	60
No. of visits re miscellaneous infectious diseases	44
No. of enquiries in cases of food poisoning	15

554

5,309

(1) DRAINAGE.(a) Sewer Connections:(i) Derry Hill and Studley.

Steady progress has been achieved in securing the connection of dwellinghouses to the public sewer. At the end of the year only 18 properties with unsatisfactory drainage in this area were not connected to main drainage, and a programme for connection of the Estate properties had been agreed with the Agent for the owners.

Details of existing properties not connected:

	<u>Estate owned.</u>	<u>Other.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Properties with septic tanks	--	24	24
" " soakaway, ditch, etc.	16	2	18
Void properties awaiting modernisation	1	1	2
Chapel and Church	--	2	2
Totals: ...	17	29	46

(ii) Box: Ashley, Boxfields, Box Hill,
Henley, Kingsdown, Middle Hill.

At the 31st December 1964, 36 properties without satisfactory drainage remained to be connected to the main sewers. Laborious negotiations have been pursued with the owners of these properties in an effort to secure that these dwellings are connected to the sewer, and after cajoleing, coercing, and taking statutory action against various owners, a further 14 dwellings have been connected to the sewer. In 10 other instances, work is actively in hand or instructions have been given to local builders to proceed with drainage work. Further negotiations will be continued with the owners of the 12 properties still without satisfactory means of drainage.

<u>Area.</u>	<u>No. of properties which can be connect- ed to the sewer.</u>	<u>Satis- -factory drainage.</u>	<u>Connect -ed to the sewer.</u>	<u>Work in progress.</u>	<u>Unsatis- -factory drainage.</u>
<u>Box:</u>					
Ashley	57	9	43	5	--
Boxfields	14	Nil	6	5	3
Box Hill	85	15	64	Nil	6
Henley	40	12	28	Nil	--
Kingsdown	94	30	61	Nil	3
Middle Hill	41	18	23	Nil	--

(b) Public Health Act 1936, Section 39:
Provision of Satisfactory Drainage.

It has been necessary to recommend the service of statutory notices on owners of five properties at Ford, Kingsdown and Westwells, not provided with satisfactory means of drainage. In four of these cases, the Council has carried out the work in default and the cost will be recovered in instalments over agreed periods, or made a charge on the properties.

The Council also connected two properties to the main sewer in Box Hill and Middle Hill, as a result of non-compliance with statutory notices issued late in 1964.

(c) Public Health Act 1936, Section 44:
Provision of Water Closets.

Following the service of statutory notices on four elderly property owners, and with their concurrence, the Council provided water closet facilities to one dwelling at Box Hill, two dwellings at Westwells, and one at Yatton Keynell. In each case, the cost of doing the work will be recovered by instalments over an agreed period, or made a charge on the properties.

(d) Sampling of Sewage Effluents.

All sampling of effluents from the various Council sewage disposal works is undertaken by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department through Mr. Hill, Chemist at the Thingley Sewage Disposal Works.

(e) Land Drainage Act, 1961.

It has not been necessary to invoke the provisions of this Act in connection with obstructed watercourses. By dint of persuasion, it has been possible to deal with complaints of blocked watercourses at East Tytherton and Goatacre Lane.

(f) Public Health Act 1936, Section 260:
Kington Langley Pond.

At the request of the Kington Langley Parish Council, the Council agreed to undertake the cleansing of this pond, which was a source of nuisance to local residents. It was found that the stone drock overflow to the pond was completely blocked and the pond could not be cleared until the Engineer and Surveyor had provided a new overflow drain.

(2) PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

(a) Proposed new Public Conveniences at Lacock.

The realisation that the existing public conveniences failed to meet the requirements of the many visitors to Lacock and of the general public, prompted the Council to make provision in the 1966/7 Estimates for new conveniences, to be constructed on the public car-park.

(b) Castle Combe: Improved Hand-Washing Facilities.

The receipt of Circular 15/65 from the Minister of Housing and Local Government, which encouraged local authorities to provide improved free hand-washing facilities at public conveniences, gave the Council an opportunity of re-considering the question of providing such facilities at these conveniences. It had originally been intended to provide coin-operated dispensing machines containing packs of paper towels and soap-leaves, but as a result of further deliberations it was finally decided to provide hot-air apparatus for hand-drying. Dryers have now been installed in the conveniences at Castle Combe and have proved very satisfactory and trouble-free. No wanton damage has so far been occasioned to the dryers.

(c) Box, Colerne and Corsham Public Conveniences.

These conveniences have been satisfactorily maintained although a great deal of wilful damage is done to the Corsham conveniences. These particular buildings are sub-standard and I hope the Council will provide modern conveniences as part of the re-development scheme for the central area of the town.

The Box and Colerne conveniences give little cause for complaint.

(d) Lay-by Sanitation on Class 'A' Roads.

This Council, together with other local authorities and the Wilts County Council, has taken part in discussions to formulate proposals for providing adequate public conveniences at lay-bys and other suitable sites on main traffic routes.

Various Working Parties were set up to prepare proposals for consideration by a Joint Committee of elected local authority representatives and certain officers, which met at County Hall, Trowbridge, on the 11th November 1965.

After a full discussion of the proposals put forward by the Working Parties, it was recommended to the County Council and District Councils:

(i) That as a matter of priority a Pilot Scheme be initiated on the A.303, consisting of two pairs of conveniences at such sites as may be agreed by the appropriate authorities, and that the Ministry of Transport be requested to accept the projects as part of the National Pilot Scheme.

(ii) That the County Council be urged to contribute such part of the capital cost which the Government would not provide, subject to the Rural District Councils concerned being responsible for the maintenance, and the maintenance cost being divided between the County Council, the Government, and such District Councils in agreed proportions.

(iii) That a mobile conveniences should be included in the Pilot Scheme in addition to the permanent structures, provided the question of the capital and maintenance costs can be satisfactorily agreed.

It is earnestly hoped that these recommendations will receive the full support of all local authorities in the county, and that these essential facilities will be provided with the minimum of delay.

(3) WATER SUPPLIES.

The North Wilts Water Board is the principal authority responsible for the supply and distribution of water for domestic and commercial use within this district, although the Bristol Water Works supplies water to Burton.

There are two other main sources of water used for private purposes, namely, the bore-hole supplies at Langley Burrell and Sutton Penger used respectively by Harris's (Calne) Ltd. and Buxted Chicken Ltd.

Routine samples are taken for bacteriological examination at fixed intervals of a week or month, from specially selected points in the Rural District, to check that the water in the mains is free from harmful organisms. This sampling is additional to that undertaken by the Water Boards.

Copies of all bacteriological reports are forwarded to the Water Boards and comparator readings, indicating the amount of free chlorine in the water from the main reservoirs are sent to them weekly. All sampling of public water sources for chemical analysis is undertaken by the Water Boards.

The Boards are quickly informed of any unsatisfactory bacteriological reports, so that immediate action can be taken.

Analysis of Results of Samples.

	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Widdenham, Box	53	8
Washwells, Box	11	1
Goodshill, Corsham	8	-
Nettleton	12	-
Biddestone	1	1
Grittleton	4	-
Stanton St. Quintin	4	-
Sutton Benger	4	-
East Tytherton, Bremhill	4	-
Burton	12	1
Yatesbury, Cherhill	12	2
Theobalds Green, Calne	12	2
Langley Burrell	4	-

Eastern Area Water Scheme:

Hilmarton	12	-
Cherhill	4	-
Bremhill	4	1
Foxham	4	1
Heddington	4	-
Compton Bassett	4	-
Bowden Hill	46	-
Fiveways, Hawthorn	41	4
Yewstock, Chippenham	33	2
Private supplied	9	15

Public Health Act 1936, Section 111, as amended by the
Water Act 1945, Section 28:

Unsatisfactory Private Source of Water at Bowden Hill, Lacock.

A series of bacteriological water samples taken from a private spring supply to Bowden House and flats, indicated that this water was subject to intermittent pollution of such a degree as to render it unfit for human consumption.

It was decided to serve a statutory notice on the owner of these properties to take a supply from the nearest public water main, but certain legal difficulties were encountered concerning easements to lay the water service under common land belonging to the National Trust. To overcome this difficulty, the North Wilts Water Board agreed to extend the water main to these properties.

Water Survey: Corton and Clevancy, Hilmarton.

A general investigation into the water supply situation in these parts of the parish of Hilmarton revealed that certain of the existing private surface springs and well supplies were subject to contamination.

It was decided to ask the North Wilts Water Board to consider providing mains water to the area and consultations with the Board are in hand.

(4)

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The organisation of an efficient refuse collection service is becoming more difficult and costly each succeeding year. Larger and more expensive vehicles are necessary to carry the increasing bulk of refuse, and the relatively low rate of wages for operatives in this service make it very difficult to retain or recruit men when other more lucrative and congenial work is available.

A further serious difficulty concerns the availability of future tipping areas. This problem is receiving serious consideration by the Council and very careful thought is being given to alternative long-term methods of treatment and disposal of household refuse.

To cope with the work of this service, it is now necessary to employ eighteen men, consisting of foreman, two tip attendants, four loader-drivers, one relief loader-driver, nine loaders, and one man engaged full-time on baling waste paper.

The fleet of vehicles now includes:-

One	-	Bedford	12 cu.yd.	(converted to salvage vehicle),	purchased	1956
One	-	"	12 cu.yd.	(side loader),	"	1959
* One	-	Shelvoke & Drewry	18 cu.yd.,	"	"	1954
One	-	"	"	18 cu.yd. {with power press},	"	1961
One	-	"	"	35 cu.yd. {compression type},	"	1963
One	-	"	"	35 cu.yd. { " " },	"	1964
One	-	"	"	35 cu.yd. { " " },	"	1965

* This vehicle is unroadworthy and will be sold, if a suitable purchaser can be found.

The steeply rising cost of maintaining these vehicles is causing me some concern, but because of the mechanical skill of the foreman and one of the tip attendants it is possible for some of this work to be undertaken by them, at great advantage to the Council.

I would like to express my personal thanks to these men for placing their particular skills at the disposal of the Council.

I am quite convinced that it would be in the Council's interests to set up a workshop for the direct maintenance of all the vehicles used by the various departments.

Supply of Dustbins.

One of the necessary duties of the public health department is to secure the provision by householders of satisfactory dustbins. It is essential that every household should be provided with sufficient dustbins having close-fitting covers, but not everyone appreciates the need for satisfactory bins, and the help which they give to the employees engaged on this work.

A survey of dustbins was made in every parish in April, and informal notices served on those persons who had not provided a satisfactory bin. Many householders purchased dustbins direct from the Council at cost price plus a small delivery charge, and 141 large and 28 small bins have been sold in this way.

I hope that, when the Council's future policy for refuse collection and disposal is crystalised, serious thought will be given to the adoption of the provisions of Sub-section (3), Section 75 of Public Health Act 1936, which enables a local authority to undertake themselves to provide and maintain dustbins, instead of requiring the owners or occupiers of buildings to do so. So long as such an undertaking is in force, the authority may make, in respect of each dustbin provided by them, an annual charge not exceeding seven shillings and sixpence.

The Litter Problem.

It would gladden my heart to be able to report a diminution of the litter problem, but alas, this is not possible. The litter to which I refer is the picnic litter of bottles, tins, paper, foodstuffs, etc., thrown into the hedge, ditch, or over the wall by motorists travelling through the district to some distant holiday resort. Also, stacks of

Litter are left by lorry-drivers at the official and unofficial lay-bys along all main roads. Seventy-five per cent of the users of these lay-bys ignore the litter receptacles which are provided by the County and cleared regularly by District Councils. Others misuse these receptacles and consider that they have been provided for the reception of sweepings from their lorries and vans, including rotting fruit, surplus or unfit bread or cakes, and contaminated straw.

When will the politicians wake up to this serious problem, and enact legislation which will seriously penalise offenders and curb the desecration of the country-side. The Litter Act 1958 is almost as dead as the dodo.

Removal of Vehicles (England and Wales) Regulations 1961.

One abandoned vehicle left in a roadside ditch near the Wansdyke, on the Gastard-Whitley road, was removed following formal action under the provisions of these Regulations.

(5) SALVAGE OF WASTE PAPER.

The re-organisation of this service has produced more salvage during 1965; 275 tons of waste paper valued at £1839.15.6., have been sold to the paper mills, compared with 168 tons in 1964.

It has been estimated that not more than 25% of the available paper and cardboard is recovered for re-use by the paper industry, so there is still scope for an even greater tonnage of waste paper to be salvaged, given the full co-operation of the public and of the collectors to ensure that all available waste paper is collected.

(6) CARAVAN SITES.

(a) Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

Eleven temporary public health licences have been issued during the year, authorising siting of single caravans for a short time on individual house plots where permanent dwellings are being erected by means of self-help, or where temporary living accommodation is required.

Unauthorised Sites.

Two unauthorised sites for single caravans at Forest Lane, Pewsham, and at Saltersford, Corsham, were vacated during the year. The occupier of the caravan at Saltersford was provided with a standing on the Council's site at Northleaze, Corsham.

Enforcement Action.

The Council decided to prosecute the owner of land at Bristol Road, North Wraxall, for allowing a caravan to be stationed on his land without planning consent, and not being in possession of a public health licence as required by Section 1 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act. The prosecution was successful, and the defendant was fined £5.0.0.

Parishes in which Temporary Licences were issued.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>No. of Licences.</u>
Bildestone	1
Brenhill	3
Calne Without	1
Christian Malford	1
Corsham	1
Kington Langley	1
Lacock	1
Stanton St. Quintin	1
Sutton Benger	1

Total Number of Licences Issued.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>No.of Licences.</u>	<u>No.of Caravans.</u>
Biddestone	1	1
Box	4	34
Brenhill	4	4
Calne Without	2	2
Christian Malford	2	3
Colerne	3	24
Corsham	4	5
Heddington	1	1
Hilmarton	2	2
Kington Langley	2	2
Lacock	3	4
North Wraxall	2	2
Pewsham	1	1
Sutton Benger	2	2
Stanton St.Quintin	1	1

(b) Caravan Sites at Corsham, Yatton Keynell, Sutton Benger and Goatacre, provided by the Council.

There has been a steady demand for standings on the above caravan sites, with the exception of the small site for five caravans at Goatacre. The provision of private caravan sites in Bradenstoke, within the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District, has reduced the demand for sites in this area.

(7) ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.(a) Clean Air Act 1956.

The inhabitants of this district are fortunate in not having any serious problems of atmospheric pollution from industrial sources. The extent of pollution from the ordinary domestic chimney however, is not fully realised. In the late autumn a distinct haze of smoke can be seen rising from the chimneys in Box and Corsham, but the degree of discharge does not warrant action under the Clean Air Act.

The Council has continued its membership of the Bristol and West Clean Air Committee, and Lt.Cdr. Cheetham and I have found its meetings most informative. The decision to form a South-Western Division of the National Smoke Abatement Society, with the Bristol and West Clean Air Committee becoming the Northern Area Committee of the Division, is considered worthy of support.

(b) Westwells Crushing Plant.

This lime-crushing plant has again been the cause of complaint from occupiers of dwellings within the neighbourhood. The Council has put pressure on the Company to improve the efficiency of the plant, and after a somewhat lengthy delay the high-frequency cyclones promised by the Company in 1964, were installed in October of 1965.

After initial teething troubles, I am now reasonably satisfied that these cyclones have helped to control the quantity of lime dust discharged from the plant.

(8) RUINOUS AND DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS AND NEGLECTED SITES.

Two cases of ruinous and dilapidated buildings have been brought to the attention of the Council, both in the hamlet of Burton. After informal discussions, the owner of a dilapidated group of outbuildings with very defective and dangerous stone-tiled roofs, agreed to strip the roofs and use the buildings for storage in connection with his business.

In the second instance it was necessary to take formal action under the provisions of Section 27(2) of the Public Health Act 1961, to secure the removal of debris resulting from the demolition of two unfit cottages. This notice has been complied with.

(9) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

I am glad to report that relatively few reports of infectious disease have had to be investigated. Enquiries were made into the following cases:-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	12
Sonne Dysentery	...	...	...	...	6
Salmonella	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	6
Typhoid (contact)	...	...	...	...	1

(10) FILTHY AND VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Many years ago, when I was training to become a Public Health Inspector, I was often called upon to deal with filthy and verminous persons and premises; very rarely now do such cases come to my notice.

One complaint of filthy and verminous premises, occupied by two elderly people living in a remote part of the district, was investigated, and I am pleased to report that after I had given some pointed advice to the man of the house, conditions there were considerably improved in less than a month.

Two informal notices were issued, requiring gardens and the surrounds of two properties to be cleared of unnecessary accumulations of rubbish.

(11) OFFENSIVE TRADES.

In this district there are no offensive trade establishments coming within the provisions of Section 107 of the Public Health Act 1936.

(12) AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE) PROVISIONS ACT 1956.

No complaints have been received from employees in the agricultural industry with reference to unsatisfactory sanitary facilities at farm or market garden premises.

B. FOOD AND DRUGS.

(1) FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

During the year 325 visits have been made to food premises to ensure that the above Regulations are complied with, and thirteen inspections were made of mobile shops and food vans.

Three food premises were improved as a result of informal notices being served on the owners. A further informal notice issued in connection with a food van was complied with.

Prosecution.

The Council instituted legal proceedings against a milk retailer for selling a one-third pint bottle of milk containing a foreign body. The analyst reported that the foreign body was a horse-chestnut, which had remained in the bottle during sterilisation and subsequent filling. The magistrates imposed a fine of £1.0.0. for this offence.

Premises.

The food premises within the Rural District consist of:

Premises.	No.	No.complying with Regn.16 (wash-basins provided):	No.of premises to which Regn.19 (facilities for washing food and equip- -ment):	
			(a) applies:	(b) is complied with:
Grocers & General Stores	72	72	31	31
Butchers	10	9	10	9
Bakers	8	8	8	8
Restaurants & Cafes	9	9	9	9
Fish & Fruit Shops	6	6	3	3
Fish & Chip Shops	3	3	3	3
Sweets & Ices Shops	11	11	-	-
Licensed Premises	61	61	61	61
Factories & Distributors	2	2	1	1
	182	181	126	125

Condemned Foods.

During 1965, the following foodstuffs were examined by the Public Health Inspectors, condemned, and subsequently surrendered as being unfit for human consumption:-

1 x 6 lbs. tin 'Pinar' corned beef punctured
2 x 4 lbs. tins 'Carnex' pressed ham damaged tins

(2) MILK AND DAIRIES.

(a) Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959.

No. of Registered Dairies 12

No. of Registered Distributors 17

During the year, 81 routine inspections of dairies have been made, and advice given on the use of suitable detergents for the cleansing of milk bottles.

Three dairies, situated in Calne Without, Corsham, and Christian Malford, have closed down; the occupiers of these dairies were also registered as distributors of milk.

(b) Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963; and
Milk (Special Designation)(Amendment) Regulations 1965.

It became necessary for dealers to re-apply for pre-packed milk licences in respect of the designations 'Untreated', 'Pasteurised', 'Sterilised', and 'Ultra Heat Treated'. Due consideration was given to these applications and the following licences were recommended for approval for a period of five years, ending on 30th December 1970.

<u>Designation.</u>	<u>No. of Licences issued:</u>
Untreated	1
Pasteurised	16
Sterilised	8
Ultra Heat Treated	Nil

A dealer's licence to use the designation 'Untreated' in relation to milk obtained otherwise than pre-packed, and which is sold at the dairy, has been granted to a milk retailer in Corsham.

The Milk (Special Designation)(Amendment) Regulations 1965, which came into operation on 1st October 1965, introduced a new designation 'Ultra Heat Treated'. Milk can be heated to 270°F for one second, thereby improving its keeping quality so long as the container is unopened. No applications for use of this designation have been received.

(c) Milk Sampling for Statutory Examination.

Each month during 1965, routine samples of milk have been taken from distributors licensed by the Council, a total of 238 being tested at the Public Health Laboratory at Bath. Reports on these samples were as follows:-

Satisfactory	...	...	...	236	(250 in 1964)
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	2	(5 in 1964)

These results are very satisfactory and show that milk for sale in this area is processed, bottled and distributed in accordance with the Milk Regulations. The County Council has delegated its duties in respect of milk sampling to District Councils and makes a contribution of 12/6d. per sample towards the cost of this work.

(d) Bottle Rinses.

Several milk bottle rinses were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory at Bath, as a check on the effectiveness of bottle sterilisation; 22 bottles were sent for test, and of these 21 were satisfactory and one failed.

(e) Milk Sampling for Biological Examination.

In addition to routine sampling, biological samples of the various designations of raw milk have been taken throughout the year; 32 visits were made to dairies of producers supplying milk to retailers in the Rural District and 103 churn samples were taken and sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Bath. All these results were negative to tuberculosis.

(f) Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus.

Milk samples for biological examination are also subjected to tests for brucella abortus; 103 such samples have been taken and results have proved negative in each case.

(3) ICE CREAM.

(a) Registration of Premises.

There are now 88 premises in this district registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream. Two existing registered premises ceased to sell ice-cream during 1965 and two additional premises were licensed, one at Castle Combe and the other at Corsham. An application for registration to sell ice-cream from a portable kiosk at a petroleum filling station at Kington Langley was refused.

(b) Sampling of Ice Cream.

A fairly comprehensive programme of ice-cream sampling has been undertaken during the year, with the following results:

<u>Grade.</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1964</u>
I	94	146
II	10	11
III	Nil	Nil
IV	Nil	Nil

These results are excellent, and indicate that the product is manufactured, stored, and sold under very satisfactory conditions.

The report obtained on an ice lolly, for which there is no recognised standard, was considered suspicious by the Pathologist, but two further samples of the same product were found to be quite satisfactory.

(4) SAMPLING OF OTHER FOODS.

During the latter part of the year a series of samples of cakes containing synthetic cream was taken, by arrangement with the Public Health Laboratory at Bath, to ascertain what is an acceptable bacterial count for such a product. One sample showed an excessive count, but after I had contacted the authority where the cake was produced, later samples were much improved. In all, 19 samples were taken, and none showed the presence of pathogenic organisms.

Four samples of pasteurised 'double cream' complied with the standards for that product.

Samples of whipped cream and beef pasty, taken in connection with suspected food poisoning, were found to be free from harmful bacteria, and frozen chicken-and-ham pie, and faggots and peas, were also satisfactory.

(5) LICENSED PREMISES.

There are 60 licensed premises in the rural district, one fewer than last year, the licence of the "King William IV" Inn at Nettleton having been surrendered by the Brewery Company.

There have been 78 visits to these premises, in connection with Food Hygiene Regulations and Section 89 of the Public Health Act 1936.

(6) BAKEHOUSES.

One bakehouse at East Tytherton closed during the year, the occupier considering it uneconomical to bring the building up to the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The other seven bakehouses have been reasonably maintained, although negotiations are in hand with the owner of the bakehouse in Bremhill to provide more permanent and suitable facilities for food preparation. The bakehouses in this district are situated at:

Bremhill	...	...	...	1
Castle Combe	...	...	...	1
Cherhill	...	...	...	1
Colerne	...	...	...	1
Corsham	...	...	...	3

(7) FRIED FISH SHOPS.

There are three fish-and-chip shops in the district, situated at Boxfields, Colerne and Corsham, but with the continued demolition of bungalows at Boxfields, it is anticipated that the fish-and-chip shop there will close early in 1966. Six visits have been made to these premises during 1965.

(8) POULTRY PACKING STATION.

Regular visits were made to the large, well-equipped poultry packing station situated in the parish of Sutton Benger.

Discussions have taken place at Ministry level concerning the necessity for 100% inspection of all birds slaughtered at poultry packing stations in the country. If 100% inspection became enforceable, this would involve the Council in the additional expense of employing 2-3 full-time Meat Inspectors at Sutton Benger, unless such expense were made the responsibility of the trade. I would not be in favour of this, for "he who pays the piper calls the tune".

During the past six months, I have been supplied with statistics of the total monthly kill and the number of rejected birds from the poultry packing station. These show a total kill during the period of 2,470,275, out of which 1823 birds were rejected because they had died in transit, or were of unsatisfactory quality through disease or injury. The rejects represent 0.07379% of the kill, which seems an exceedingly small figure, and if this is representative of similar establishments in the country, does not warrant the introduction of 100% inspection.

(9) THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS 1963.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in this Rural District.

(10) SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND KNACKERS' YARDS.(a) Food and Drugs Act 1955, Section 63.

The licence for the knacker's yard at Heddington has again been renewed, following a satisfactory report on conditions there. Three visits of inspection were made during the year. The number of horses received and slaughtered there is decreasing.

(b) Slaughter of Animals Act 1933.
Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act 1954.
Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958.

Six slaughtermen's licences were issued under these Acts and Regulations, all the men being experienced slaughtermen employed at the Heddington knacker's yard.

The return of horses slaughtered at the knacker's yard shows that 19 horses were slaughtered during the year, 17 on farms and 2 at the knacker's yard. A total of 32 carcasses were received at the yard.

(c) Slaughterhouses Act 1958.
Slaughterhouses (Reports) Direction 1959.

There are no slaughterhouses in this Rural District.

C. HOUSING.(1) HOUSING ACTS 1957-1964.(a) Improvement Areas.

I have already referred to the legislation dealing with "Improvement Areas" in the preface to this report, and to the decision of the Council to designate an area of Priory Street, Corsham, comprising Nos.4-108 and Nos.17-69 as a declared Improvement Area.

(b) Housing Statistics.

Details of dwellinghouses in this district at the end of the year are as follows:-

No. of permanent dwellings - privately owned	6,093
" " " " - local authority owned... ..	1,797
" " temporary " - " " " "	378
No. of applications for Council houses	386

(c) Inspections of Dwellinghouses during the year.

No. of dwellings inspected for defects under Public Health Acts ...	10
" " " " " " " " Housing Acts	61
" " " reported not reasonably fit for human habitation...	16
" " " rendered fit and defects remedied in consequence of informal action...	13
" " " improved or repaired to comply with mortgage undertakings...	26

(d) Action under Statutory Powers.(1) Proceedings under Housing Act 1957, Sections 9,10 and 12.

No. of dwellings where notices were served requiring defects to be remedied...	-
" " " rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) by owners... ..	1
(b) by local authority in default of owners...	-

(2) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

No. of dwellings where formal notices were served	3
" " " rendered fit as a result of formal notices:	
(a) by owners... ..	1
(b) by local authority in default of owners...	2

(3) Proceedings under Housing Act 1957, Section 16.

No. of Demolition Orders made... ..	5
" " houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders ...	4
" " Undertakings to make fit accepted	-
" " " completed	10
" " " not to re-let accepted	1

The Council has also demolished 162 war-time bungalows.

(4) Proceedings under Housing Act 1957, Sections 42,43,46 and 48.

No. of houses in Clearance Areas upon which Demolition Orders have been made ...	Nil
" " " demolished as a result of Demolition Orders ...	Nil
" " " in Clearance Areas which have been retained as temporary accommodation...	Nil

(5) Proceedings under Housing Act 1957, Sections 17,18 and 27.

No. of dwellings where Closing Orders were made	3
" " " closed as a result of Closing Orders or Undertakings by owners...	7
" " " where Undertakings not to re-let cancelled in consequence of premises being made fit...	-
" " " demolished which had previously been reported to be closed...	2

(6) Proceedings under Housing Act 1957, Section 76.

No. of cases of overcrowding at the end of the year	Nil
" " " " discovered during the year	Nil
" " " " abated during the year	Nil

(e) Improvement Grants - Discretionary.

	1965	1964
Applications received for conversion (houses)	1	3
" " " improvements... .. (")	35	45
Approvals for conversion of owner/occupied property (")	-	-
" " " other " (")	-	3
" " improvement of owner/occupied property (")	18	18
" " " other property... .. (")	9	25
Amount of Grants approved for conversions	-	£1,500
" " " " improvements	£9,408	£14,659
No. of applications made during the year which were refused or withdrawn...	7	1
No. of Grants completed	42	48
Amount of Grants paid	£13,910	£16,816
No. of premises inspected re Improvement Grants and Improvement Areas...	472	169

(f) Improvement Grants - Standard.

	1965	1964
Applications received (houses)	47	41
" approved - owner/occupied houses ... (")	34	26
" - other houses (")	11	11
No. of applications made during the year which were refused or withdrawn... (")	2	5
No. of houses improved	40	31
Amount of Grants paid	£5,848	£4,250
No. of baths or showers provided	36	27
" wash-hand basins "	38	29
" water-closets "	40	28
" hot water supplies "	37	30
" food stores "	33	24

(2) RENT ACT 1957; Section 1 and First Schedule.

No applications have been received from tenants for Certificates of Disrepair and action by the Council.

(3) HOUSING ACT 1961; HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION.

I am only aware of one property, at Pickwick Road, Corshan, which comes within the purview of Part II of the Housing Act 1961. This property is divided into several self-contained flats, and with the exception of two basement rooms, on which Closing Orders have been placed, the accommodation is satisfactory. No overcrowding was noted.

(4) PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936, Section 237: COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

No common lodging houses are registered in this Rural District.

D. FACTORIES, OFFICES, SHOPS, ETC.(1) OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.(a) Registrations and Inspections.

Class of Premises.	No. of premises registered during the... year.	Total No. of registered premises at the end of the year.	No. of registered premises receiving general inspections during the year.
Offices	6	31	23
Retail shops	5	75	54
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	2	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	18	13
Fuel storage depots	-	3	-

The total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises totalled 191.

(b) Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplace.

Class of Workplace.	No. of persons employed.
Offices	225
Retail shops	239
Wholesale departments, warehouses	27
Catering establishments open to the public	66
Canteens	3
Fuel storage depots	13
Total:	573
.....	
Total males:	274
Total females:	299

(c) Exemptions.

Part I:	Space (Section 5(2))	...	...	...	Nil
Part II:	Temperature (Section 6)	...	...	...	Nil
Part III:	Sanitary conveniences (Section 9)	...	...	...	Nil
Part IV:	Washing facilities (Section 10)	...	...	...	Nil

(d) Contraventions.

Contraventions in respect of:		Found.	Remedied.
Sec. 4:	Cleanliness	-	-
" 5:	Overcrowding	-	-
" 6:	Temperature	40	32
" 7:	Ventilation	-	-
" 8:	Lighting	3	2
" 9:	Sanitary conveniences	8	4
" 10:	Washing facilities	8	4
" 11:	Supply of drinking water	-	-
" 12:	Accommodation for clothing	1	1
" 13:	Sitting facilities	1	-
" 14:	Seats for sedentary workers	-	-
" 15:	Eating facilities	1	-
" 16:	Floors, passages, stairs	7	4
" 17:	Fencing exposed parts machinery	1	1
" 18:	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-	-
" 19:	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-	-
" 23:	Prohibition of heavy work	-	-
" 24:	First aid - general provisions	23	19
Information for Employees Regulations 1965		4	-
Total:		97	67
No. of prosecutions Nil.			

(e) Staff.

No. of Inspectors appointed under Sec. 52(1) or (5) of the Act ... 4

No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act ... Nil

(f) Lighting Survey.(i) Survey of 12 Offices.

No. of working places where the illumination measured in lumens per square foot was:-

(a)	less than 5	...	...	...	...	...
(b)	more than 5, but less than 10	...	...	...	...	4
(c)	" " 10, " " 15	...	...	...	...	4
(d)	" " 15, " " 25	...	...	...	...	12
(e)	" " 25, " " 30	...	...	...	...	16

In two cases, excessive glare was found, due to the use of unshaded lamps.

(ii) Survey of 6 Shops.

Illumination of various rooms:-

Lumens per square foot.		Selling area.	Stock/Packing rooms.	Preparation rooms.
(a)	Less than 5	-	2	1
(b)	More than 5, but less than 10	-	-	-
(c)	" " 10, " " 15	1	4	1
(d)	" " 15, " " 25	2	2	1
(e)	" " 25	3	1	-

Reliable figures cannot readily be obtained for rooms without fixed working places as the light meter readings were found to vary considerably from place to place in all rooms, except where there is a high overall intensity of illumination. This is usually only found in selling areas.

The above figures can therefore, only be regarded as "average". Where readings are shown as being below 5, lighting was unsatisfactory, but in all other cases the rooms were considered, before readings were taken, to be adequately lighted for their purposes.

The lighting of the selling area of one multiple store was 60 lumens per square foot, provided by unshaded fluorescent tubes. Uniform illumination of this intensity did not appear comfortable because of the lack of contrast and the presence of some glare from the fluorescent tubes.

2) SHOPS ACT 1950.

All our efforts in connection shop premises have been devoted to the administration of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963, and no actual inspections have been made of shops under the above Act.

3) FACTORIES ACT 1961.

Of the 82 factories registered in this Rural District, 7 are on Crown property and are the responsibility of the Factories Inspector.

During the year, 23 inspections have been made of other factories, in connection with the provision and maintenance of satisfactory sanitary facilities for employees.

(a) Registrations and Inspections.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of:		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs.1,2, 3,4 & 6 are enforced by local authority ...	-	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authority	78	23	1	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authority (excluding out-workers' premises)...	4	-	-	-
Total:	82	23	1	-

(b) Number of Cases in which Defects were found:

Particulars.	No. of cases where defects found:				Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred:		
			to H.M. Insptr.	by H.M. Insptr.	
Sanitary conveniences (Sec.7):					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	4	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-

(c) Outworkers.

There are 8 outworkers in this District, all engaged in glove-making.

H. ROBERT CLARKE

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

Work on rodent control this year has been seriously hampered by the fact that the Council's Rodent Officer has been unable to drive his motor-car, and other means of transport have had to be provided for him. This inconvenience is reflected in the schedule of work undertaken during the year.

A minor infestation of rats in a cottage at Colerne was linked with the illness of the owner, whose complaint was diagnosed as Weil's disease. The disease is caused by infection from rat urine, and this case emphasises the importance of rodent control.

(a) Schedule of Work.

	Local authority properties.	Agricultural properties.	Business & other properties.	Council houses.	Private houses.	Totals.
<u>No. of Properties inspected:</u>						
following notification	15	4	19	46	45	129
with major infestations of rats	1	-	3	2	-	6
with minor infestations of rats	13	4	8	20	29	74
with major infestations of house mice	-	-	1	-	-	1
with minor infestations of house mice	1	-	3	2	5	11
<u>No. of Properties surveyed:</u>						
as required by the						
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	16	127	67	101	45	356
with major infestations of rats	-	4	-	-	-	4
with minor infestations of rats	1	14	11	1	13	40
with major infestations of house mice	-	-	-	-	-	-
with minor infestations of house mice	-	1	-	-	-	1
No. of inspections and re-inspections	76	134	97	154	94	555
No. of properties treated	15	2	10	21	25	73
No. of treatments and re-treatments	17	2	10	21	24	74
Total no. of visits re rodent control	161	136	125	192	163	777
Total no. of visits re other pests	-	-	-	1	2	3

(b) Sewer Test-Baiting and Treatment.

All the Council sewers were test-baited during April and May, and details of the results sent to the Pest Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at Gloucester.

(i) Summary of Sewer Test-Baiting Results:

Area of Test-Baiting.	No. of Manholes baited.	Takes.	Bait Base.
Biddestone	8	-	Oatmeal
Box	36	-	"
Boxfields to Thingley (ex-Ministry sewers)	29	-	"
Castle Combe	8	-	"
Colerne	13	-	"
Corsham	91	13	"
Lacock	12	-	"
Studley - Derry Hill	16	-	"
Yatton Keynell	7	-	"

This aspect of the Rodent Officer's work increases each year as new sewerage schemes come into operation. The Engineer and Surveyor, in his 1965 Annual Report, states that there are now 58 miles of sewer in use in the Rural District, and test-baiting of all these sewers has to be undertaken annually.

(ii) Summary of Sewer Treatments.

Area of treatment.	No. of manholes baited.	Takes - complete or partial:				Poison.
		1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.	
Corsham Central, Neston areas	6	-	6	6	4	Arsenic
Rudloe Housing Site	7	-	7	7	-	Arsenic

F. MISCELLANEOUS.(1) PET ANIMALS ACT 1951.

There are no pet shops in this District.

(2) DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957.

Of the nine licensees treating animal food waste in this District, one relinquished his licence during 1965. Eight remain on the register, and all have been visited to ensure that the provisions of the Order are being complied with.

(3) ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963.

During 1965, eight licences were issued in respect of premises previously licensed. These premises are situated in the undermentioned parishes, and have all been satisfactorily maintained:

Box	2
Chippenham Without ...	1
Christian Malford ...	1
Corsham	1
Hilmarton... ..	1
Kington Langley ...	1
Nettleton... ..	1

(4) SCRAP METAL DEALERS' ACT 1964.

This Act requires every local authority to maintain a register of persons carrying on business in its area as scrap metal dealers.

A person carrying on business as a scrap dealer is to be treated as carrying on that business in the area of the local authority if, but only if:

- (a) a place in that area is occupied by him as a scrap metal store;
- (b) no place is occupied by him as a scrap metal store, whether in that area or elsewhere, but he has his usual place of residence in that area, or
- (c) no place is occupied by him as a scrap metal store, whether in that area or elsewhere, but a place in that area is occupied by him wholly or partly for the purposes of that business.

Section 3 of the Act enables a local authority to make an Order directing that itinerant scrap dealers may be exempt from the keeping of detailed records of the weight and value of scrap etc. purchased and sold.

This exemption is a source of encouragement to itinerant scrap dealers, and a number of such persons have applied for registration even though they have no fixed address within the Rural District. Some have endeavoured to overcome this obstacle by giving accommodation addresses, and two such applications were not accepted by the Council.

All scrap dealers had to apply for registration by the 1st July 1965, and 13 dealers have been registered by the Council at various addresses in the Rural District.

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